NOW, FIRST THINGS FIRST,
THE iDOLM@STER 2
アイドルマスター
The world is all one !!
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF FIRING YOU.
!?
CARRY ON AS USUAL WITH YOUR PRODUC-TION.
W, WAIT A MINUTE!
WHAT ABOUT MY RESPONSI-BILITY!?

THE iDOLM@STER 2
アイドルマスター
The world is all one !!
第12話「心絆す一歩」
CHAPTER 12 ONE STEP CLOSER
祐佑
YUU YUU
原作／バンダイナムコゲームス
ORIGINAL WORK BY BANDAI NAMCO GAMES
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WERE YOU SURPRISED?
WELL,
WE NEVER EXPECTED SOMEONE LIKE YOU TO BE A SPY, EITHER.
BUT FIRING ME WOULD BE THE OBVIOUS THING TO DO, RIGHT?
NOW,
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN HOW THOSE THREE GIRLS WERE LIKE,
BEFORE YOU STEPPED INTO OUR AGENCY?
.....
ALWAYS WAITING FOR A JOB THAT WOULD NEVER COME
THAT WAS THEIR EVERYDAY LIFE.

LOST, UNCERTAIN, NEVER KNOWING WHAT WOULD HAPPEN-
THOSE WEAK SMILES THEY WOULD PUT ON-
YOU'VE NEVER SEEN THEM, HAVE YOU?
NOT AT ALL.
IRONI-CALLY, IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOUR SABOTAGE-
THAT THEIR SMILES FINALLY STARTED TO SHINE.

PRODUC-
ER-
I'VE BEEN WATCHING SINCE THE START.
YOU REALLY TRIED YOUR BEST, DIDN'T YOU?
WE ALREADY KNOW WHICH ONE IS THE REAL YOU.
AFTER ALL, ONLY ONE OF THEM WOULD HAVE COME BACK TO TELL US ALL OF THIS.
THE 'YOU' WHO CARRIED OUT PRESIDENT KUROI'S ORDERS,
AND THE YOU' WHO TRIED SO HARD TO SUPPORT THOSE GIRLS.

WELL, NOT ONLY THAT...
コホン...
HIS PERFORMANCE HAS BEEN SO GOOD,
I KIND OF WANTED HIM TO CONTINUE BECAUSE OF THAT ALONE.
はっ はっ はっ
PRESIDENT...
THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH,
BUT,
AS UNEASY AS I AM RIGHT NOW,
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING FOR THE THREE OF THEM.
BECAUSE-
I...

BUT IT'S TOO EARLY TO DRAW CONCLUSIONS NOW.
I THINK EVERYONE NEEDS SOME TIME TO CALM DOWN.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO FORCE YOURSELF IF YOU DON'T WANT TO.
FOR NOW, JUST TAKE SOME TIME TO REFLECT ON WHAT HAP-PENED.
COME BACK WHEN YOU'RE FEELING BETTER.
YEAH.
I'LL BE LEAVING NOW.
765

LAST NIGHT, YOUR PRODUCER RESIGNED FROM 961 PRODUCTIONS.
FOR RESPONSIBILITY'S SAKE, HE TOLD US EVERYTHING.
PRESIDENT TAKAGI TRIED TO STOP HIM FROM LEAVING,
BUT, HE SAID, "IT'S BETTER FOR THEM IF I'M NOT AROUND", AND...
AS YOU CAN SEE,
IT SEEMS LIKE HE MAY END UP LEAVING THE AGENCY...

I DON'T CARE.
WE'LL BE FINE ON OUR OWN.
AH
UM, THAT,
WHAT DO YOU THREE WANT TO DO?
BESIDES, THAT GUY?
I DON'T KNOW HIM ANYMORE.
HA, HARUKA?
A, ARE YOU REALLY OKAY WITH THAT?
THAT-!
BUT, HE'S NO LONGER-

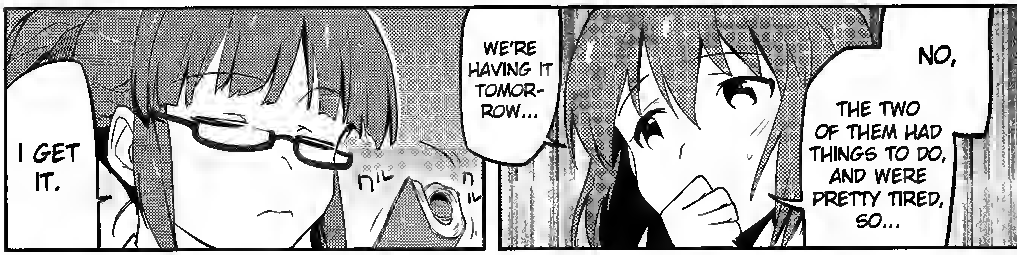
I JUST...
CAN'T THINK OF ANY-THING RIGHT NOW.
I'M SORRY, YUKIHO.
バタン...
THEIR TRUST IN HIM GOT TURNED INSIDE-OUT.
JUDGING FROM THEIR ATTITUDES JUST NOW,
IT'S WORSE THAN I THOUGHT.
JUST LIKE HIM, THEY NEED TIME TO THINK THINGS THROUGH.
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.
I KNOW.

ARE YOU TWO REALLY OKAY WITH THAT?
HEY, IF THIS GOES ON, WE'LL BE LEFT WITHOUT A PRODUCER, YOU KNOW?
YUKIHO.
WHY ARE YOU STILL TALKING ABOUT THAT?
WHY THE HECK ARE YOU STILL TRYING TO STICK UP FOR HIM?
HE HID ALL THAT FROM US, KEPT IT ALL A SECRET.
THAT'S BE-CAUSE...
WE STILL HAVEN'T HAD THE CHANCE TO TALK TO HIM AGAIN...

I DIDN'T FORCE HIM TO LEAVE.
"IT'S BETTER IF I'M NOT AROUND".
THAT'S WHAT HE SAID. HE LEFT ON HIS OWN.
WHY
DID HE KEEP ON LYING TO US?
SINCE THE START,
WHY DID HE-
STOP IT!
PLEASE,
STOP TALKING ABOUT THAT ALREADY...

TWO WEEKS LATER,
AFTER THE MONTHLY REPORT-
GOOD WORK, EVERY-BODY.
HEY, HARUKA, HIBIKI,
SINCE WE'RE DONE WITH THIS MONTH'S REPORT,
SHOULD WE HAVE A LITTLE MEETING TODAY?
I'M SORRY, BUT EVERYONE AT HOME IS WAITING FOR ME TO FEED THEM, SO...
CAN WE DO THAT TO-MORROW?
YEAH, I'M ALSO FEELING REALLY TIRED...
I... I SEE...
SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW, THEN...
YEAH
SEE YOU-
……

HUH?
ARE YOU DONE WITH YOUR MEETING ALREADY?
REALLY, IF THIS GOES ON...


I GET IT.
WE'RE HAVING IT TOMOR-ROW...
NO, THE TWO OF THEM HAD THINGS TO DO, AND WERE PRETTY TIRED, SO...

BESIDES, I WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON OVER THERE.
YOU CAN TALK TO ME ABOUT IT IF YOU WANT.
IF YOU THREE HAVE ANY TROUBLES, PLEASE ASK FOR HELP.
YOU ALL KEEP TO YOUR-SELVES TOO MUCH.
!?

WELL, I ALREADY HAVE A ROUGH IDEA OF WHAT HAPPENED,
BUT I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN.
HOW-EVER,
IF YOU DON'T GET YOUR FEELINGS SORTED OUT, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO DO ANY-THING.
THE TWO OF THEM ARE JUST TRYING TO AVOID TALKING ABOUT IT.

I THINK THAT BOTH HARUKA AND HIBIKI REALLY WANT HIM TO COME BACK, BUT...
IT'S JUST THAT THEIR EMOTIONS ARE GET-TING IN THE WAY...

EVERY-ONE'S SAD, ANGRY, AND SCARED,
SCARED?
I GOT PRETTY SCARED WHEN I HEARD ABOUT WHAT HE DID...
I WAS SHOCKED WHEN I HEARD THAT HE CAUSED THE POWER OUT-
STOP RIGHT THERE.

EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT...
HE DIDN'T CAUSE THAT ACCIDENT, YOU KNOW?
EH?
IT HAPPENED BECAUSE A FALLING PROP CRUSHED THE CABLES.
BOTH KOTORI AND I WERE THERE. THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT.
.....!?
YEAH. I THOUGHT YOU THREE WOULD KNOW ABOUT THAT...
THE FACT THAT HE WAS WORKING FOR 961 SHOULD HAVE BEEN A MINUS, BUT...
HIS PERFORMANCE WAS SO GOOD THAT YOU REALLY HAVE TO WONDER.
WHAT DID HIS 'SABOTAGE' ACTUALLY CONSIST OF?
SENDING US FOR JOBS AS HE WAS ORDERED,
AND REPORTING ON OUR SCHEDULES...
I SEE.
BUT AS FOR THOSE JOBS...
WELL, THE REPORTING IS CERTAINLY A GIVEN,

IT'S TRUE THAT THOSE BIG JOBS DON'T LOOK LIKE THEY HAPPENED BY CHANCE,
BUT ALL OF THEM SEEMED TO WORK OUT REALLY WELL FOR YOUR UNIT.
DID YOU NOTICE HIM DOING ANYTHING STRANGE, BACK THEN?
DOING ANYTHING... STRANGE?
WHENEVER HE RUNS OFF AT TIMES LIKE THIS,
IT'S ALWAYS BECAUSE HE'S DOING SOMETHING FOR OUR SAKE.
AH...
ドクン・・・
.....
RITSUKO! IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE?
ANY-THING THAT I SHOULD KNOW?
WHAT'S THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN?
WELL, THERE IS, BUT...
PLEASE TELL ME!

RITSU-KO...
YES.
IS THAT OKAY?
THAT SHOULD BE MOST OF IT.
I HAVE A REQUEST TO MAKE.
Pi
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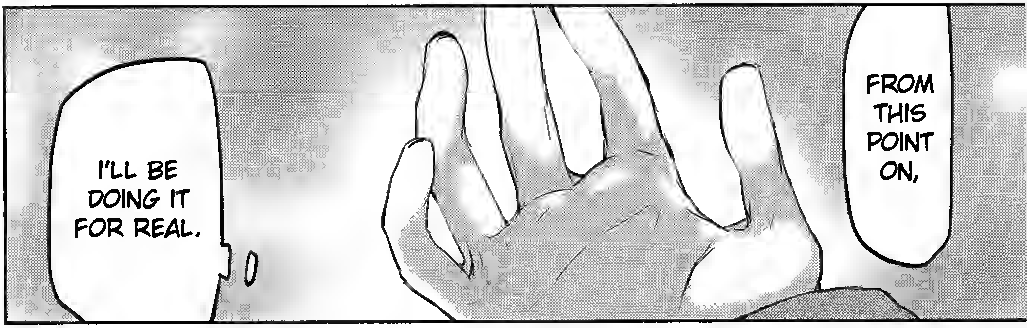
IT'S COLD OUT, AND...
YOU'RE NOT WEARING YOUR SUIT?
BECAUSE...
I'M NOT YOUR PRODUCER ANYMORE.
I...
HAVE NO RIGHT TO CALL MYSELF YOUR PRODUCER.
I'VE BEEN LYING TO YOU ALL FOR SO LONG,
I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO KEEP THIS UP ANY LONGER.
EVEN THOUGH I HAVEN'T DECIDED WHAT TO DO,
I'M REALLY, REALLY SORRY.
EVEN THOUGH I'M ONLY SAYING IT NOW...

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN THINKING ABOUT THAT.
WHY DID YOU KEEP ON LYING?
EVEN THOUGH YOUR REACTION WAS SO PAINFUL...
I ONLY REALIZED THIS AFTER I TALKED TO RITSUKO,
BUT-
YOU KEPT IT ALL A SECRET FROM US.
BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T WANT US TO GET HURT, DIDN'T YOU?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT SITUATION YOU WERE IN,
BUT EVEN SO,
I UNDER-STAND WHY YOU THOUGHT THAT WAY!
I SAW ALL THE JOBS WE DID.
MOST OF THEM DIDN'T EVEN HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH 961 PRO!

THAT ACCIDENT DURING OUR LIVE WASN'T YOUR FAULT-
AND FOR ALL THE JOBS GIVEN BY 961 PRO,
YOU WOULD ALWAYS FIND SOME WAY FOR US TO GET THROUGH THEM!
AT'S
HY-
AND SO WHAT IF I DID ALL THAT!?
FOR THAT, I SACRIFICED YOUR TRUST,
AND I COULDN'T PROTECT YOUR SMILES-
THAT'S WHY,
RIGHT NOW, I AN'T-
STOP RUNNING AWAY.
PLEASE!
YOU SHOULDN'T TRY TO RUN AWAY FROM YOUR MISTAKES.
THAT WON'T HELP ANY OF US.
PLEASE...

PLEASE, COME BACK!
PRO-DUCER!

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU THREE WILL EVER BE ABLE TO FORGIVE ME.
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO TRY AGAIN.
WHAT ABOUT AMAMI AND GANAHA?
IT'LL BE OKAY. WE'LL REACH OUT TO THEM. TOGETHER.
I UNDER-STAND.



BEING A PRODUCER FOR 765 PRODUCTIONS.